

# THE MORNING SUN.

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## PEOPLE WOULD SUFFER FOR RAILROAD BENEFIT

IF LEGISLATURE SHOULD PASS ACT OVER VETO  
OF GOVERNOR INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT  
FUND WOULD BE TIED UP EXCEPT TO PAY  
DISPUTED RAILROAD CLAIMS.

Among the vetoed bills of the Legislature of 1905, which come up in the House today under special order, is that act bearing the title:

"An act to require the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund to pay into the State Treasury all money now in their possession or which may hereafter come into their possession for the said Internal Improvement Fund; to make the State Treasurer responsible under his official bond for the safe keeping of the same, and to repeal Chapter 5246, Laws of Florida, relating to the disposition of the said money, approved June 8, 1903."

This bill provides but for one general purpose: Putting all money of Internal Improvement Fund and keeping it there tied up, only to be released as a warrant may be drawn by the Comptroller in settlement of "CLAIMS NOW PENDING OR WHICH MAY HEREAFTER BE FILED AGAINST THE SAID INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT FUND."

And the claims would be those of LAND GRANT RAILROADS, nothing more.

Those would be the only claims for which the Comptroller would be authorized to draw a warrant. Under such a law the State is defenseless against land grabbing corporations, because the Trustees would be unable to join in litigation, not being able to draw money from the Treasury for the payment of counsel, or indeed for any other purpose.

A more fitting title for this bill would be: "To Abolish

## BY THE WAY



Senator Crane leans to Pinellas County.

mer of Largo, a large turpentine operator, and C. A. Harvey of St. Petersburg, organizer and manager of the Bayboro Improvement Company, which is back of a new suburb of St. Petersburg and investing many thousands of dollars in making a harbor and other large improvements there, joined them Saturday.

Yesterday Editors W. L. Straub of the Times, W. B. Powell of the Independent, and Hon. John S. Taylor, the campaign committee appointed by the St. Petersburg Board of Trade, returned, accompanied by F. A. Wood, president of the National Bank of St. Petersburg and prominent in many large commercial concerns of Pinellas Peninsula; W. E. Heathcote of St. Petersburg, one of the largest orange growers of the State and an investor

Promoters of the new county of Pinellas are now on the job in earnest, and if the slice to make it is not cut out of Hillsborough County, a large delegation will go back to the sub-peninsula convinced that "righteousness" is a poor card to play for legislation.

Capt. Sam Hope of Carpon Springs and W. F. Hughey, president of the Clearwater Board of Trade, remained over Sunday; W. A. Belcher of Largo, member of the Hillsborough County School Board, Mr. Ulmer of Largo, a large turpentine operator, and C. A. Harvey of St. Petersburg, organizer and manager of the Bayboro Improvement Company, which is back of a new suburb of St. Petersburg and investing many thousands of dollars in making a harbor and other large improvements there, joined them Saturday.

## WHAT MARC ANTONY SAID AND BRUTUS DID

ALSO, WHAT MR. MACWILLIAMS DID, IN HIS  
HEAD-ON COLLISION WITH THE RULES.  
RICHBURG WANTS A THREE-CENT FARE.  
ANOTHER GOOD ROADS BILL.

Consideration of House Bill No. 112, to authorize and empower notaries public to act and perform the duties of coroner in certain cases, gave Mr. MacWilliams opportunity for a speech, such as he is capable of on great occasions, and yesterday he and opportunity hit head-on when he uttered the following discourse in dramatic tones that spellbound the House:



This is not a Royal Poinciana bud nor is it an air plant. It is the Statesman from St. Johns, in full and glorious flower. An American Beauty without its thorn.

peculiar force, for it compels me to enact the role of Brutus when he stabbed Caesar. That was a scene that took place outside the Senate Chamber in Rome, and Caesar met his fate at the hands of the conspirators for the reason that he was ambitious, but if he was ambitious he grievously paid for the fault.

"The rules of this House, more strict, and, in this particular, unjust than any that ever emanated from Czar Reed in the halls of Congress, compel me on this occasion to act the role of Brutus. I am obliged to stab the best friend I have in my county, by making the motion required under the rules of this House. I am required, under the rules, to move to indefinitely postpone the bill of my colleague, and therefore you can readily see the position I am placed in in acting under these rules at this time. As Marc Antony said, addressing the Romans, 'This is the most unkindest cut of all; and I make apology to my colleague, and explain that it is only under the hard and unjust rule of this House that I move to indefinitely postpone this bill.'

"Whether Marc Antony would have moved to indefinitely postpone, and then have voted against his motion is a matter of conjecture, but those who have any interest in the matter can rest in the assurance that he probably would, as Mr. MacWilliams perhaps had a hunch on the voting method of the Roman when he said "no" to his own motion.

Sixteen bills were introduced in the House yesterday, among them being that of Mr. Smith of Lake, to regulate the sale of liquor; by Mr. McKenzie of Putnam, to continue the present lease system of convicts and appropriate the money for their hire to road building; by Mr. Richbourg of Walton, making three cents a mile the rate for passenger train; by Mr. Knight of Citrus, defining liability of common carriers, etc. (employers' liability bill).

The bill to amend the General Statutes, relating to the protection of shad during spawning season, was passed yesterday, as were the amendments to the General Statutes relating to the destruction of timber and prescribing the number of grand jury.

Mr. Wilson of Lee withdrew his bill imposing an occupation tax upon each office or place where liquors were deliverable, etc.

Mr. Watson's primary bill was made a special order for Thursday at 11 a. m.

Beginning with this morning the House will convene at 9 o'clock, adjourning at 1 p. m. each day.

### I. I. INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE.

Organization of the joint committee to investigate the records of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund occurred yesterday afternoon.

Senator Buckman was unanimously chosen chairman and Senator West of the First secretary.

Mr. Carter of Alachua, author of the resolution under which the investigation is authorized, on account of his weakened physical condition, did not seek the chairmanship, as the holding of such position would be overtaxing. Beyond formal organization nothing further was done, although the committee will undoubtedly arrange without delay for a system of work.

### TEMPERANCE RALLY LAST NIGHT.

Hall of Representatives held a large audience last night, gathered to listen to speeches made for temperance.

Prof. W. N. Sheats was chairman of the meeting, the principal speakers being Senator Humphries and Representative Pettigrew. Several others talked on the subject of temperance.

The meeting last night is another indication of the feeling in this Legislature on the liquor question. Various bills have been introduced for the regulation of the traffic, some quite drastic in character, but the climax was reached in the Senate yesterday when Senator Humphries introduced a joint resolution proposing prohibition for the State.

### JONES IS HUNTING TIGER'S BONES.

There's a weird, wild and woolly  
Tale that comes from good San Lucie  
Narrated by a good and truthful brave—  
He's an Injun, honest soul, but he ain't a Seminole,  
And he doesn't stretch his sinews in a cove.

Search you not 'neath native stones  
For the Chief Tom Tiger's bones—  
You must hustle for to find them on  
The war path, Member Jones.

Please don't lose your time in talk  
But take up your tomahawk,  
And get busy, very busy, for the tepees are enwrath  
There are signs of trouble brewing  
And we want no fabric chewing.  
If going, Jones,  
For Tiger's bones  
It's time you were on the path.



the Trustees," because shorn of power as they would be under the provisions of this Act, they would be powerless to resist the land-grabbing tendencies of railroads; powerless to do anything except to receive any money that might come to their hands, to be in turn transferred to the Treasurer, who would keep it not for the use of the public, but to pay out to railroads as warrants for claims were presented.

Work of proving up swamp and overflowed lands would stop, because the Trustees could not pay for having it done. This work of proving up lands is going on all the time and the State's acreage of public land is constantly increasing through this method.

Land sales to settlers and others would cease, because having no way to draw funds for payment of the clerical force its dismissal would be a necessity.

Nor could any portion of the fund be used for road building purposes. The act provides for the repeal of "An act providing for the building of county hard roads and providing appropriation therefor," the money therefor to come from the Internal Improvement Fund.

Section 1 of the act provides that upon approval all money in the possession of the Internal Improvement Trustees, together with other money that may come to them from time to time from all sources, shall be paid to the State Treasurer, who shall place it to the credit of the I. I. Fund.

Section 2 of the act is an iron-clad proviso to keep the money in the Treasury except TO PAY A CLAIM, and no other claims exist, but DISPUTED RAILROAD CLAIMS.

Sec. 2 reads: "That whenever the claims now pending or those which may hereafter be filed against the said Internal Improvement Fund shall have been finally adjusted and their payment ordered, the Comptroller shall draw his warrant upon the Treasurer in payment of the same, and all such payment shall be made from money standing to the credit of the said Internal Improvement Fund on the books of the State Treasurer."

That section settles the disposition of the money, and shows the only purpose for which it can be withdrawn from the hands of the Treasurer. It is as completely out of the use of the people of Florida as if it never existed if the Legislature shall pass the act over the Governor's veto.

and officer in many transportation and other corporations of the Peninsula; A. P. Avery, one of the owners of the big new St. Petersburg hospital and other large property interests, and E. S. Hanna, postmaster and pioneer citizen of St. Petersburg. All business men and hustlers; not a politician in the bunch.

Congressman Frank Clark arrived Sunday afternoon and was a visitor welcomed by many acquaintances at the State House yesterday. Mr. Clark is here to attend the convention of County Superintendents of Public Instruction, and will make the principal address at their meeting.

When Senator Beard arises this afternoon to address the Senate on suffrage amendment he has proposed for the Constitution he will have a large assembly to listen to his words, if the interest that has been excited over his plan to eliminate the negro as a voting factor takes the form of attendance.

That Senator Beard will make an able address on this subject is without question. He has studied the proposition deeply and is primed with facts bearing on the matter that will make whatever he may say on the matter a substantial guide for Legislative action.

Mr. W. B. Powell, editor of the St. Petersburg Independent, requested publication of the following: :

CLARK 2  
Editor Sun:

The Tampa Times of Friday, April 12, under a big scare head, says that Congressman Jos. C. Sibley of this city would donate \$20,000, or even \$40,000, to win the county division fight, namely the passage of House Bill No. 161.

In the name of that's decent, in the name of the splendid body of men gathered at Tallahassee in the Legislative hall, please deny this story, which smacks of a cheap political dodge.

Mr. Sibley has not donated one cent to the fund created for legitimate expenses of the campaign, nor has he been asked to do so. The sum total of the "slush fund" from St. Petersburg is \$35. The people of the west coast of

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